

METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ENABLING SECURE STORAGE OF SENSITIVE DATA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems and methods are disclosed for
5 storing sensitive data in a database, such as an
application database or a dedicated application
security database or store. In accordance with one
aspect of the invention, user passwords are not
directly stored in a database; but instead, when a
10 password is entered, a one-way hash of the password
phrase is produced for storage and/or comparison
purposes. In accordance with another aspect,
individual authorized application users are each
aligned with their own version of an application-wide
15 security key such that it becomes unnecessary to
directly store the key in its original form. The
security key is used to process sensitive data. In
accordance with another aspect, a user's version of
the application-wide security reflects an encryption-
20 based relationship to the user's password. Various
embodiments also support flexible access to
particular collections of sensitive data based on
user account and/or user role information.